

Application No. 10/786,371

Remarks

The Office Action of November 25, 2005, has been carefully considered. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested. Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the allowable subject matter.

Claims 1-4 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Toshio (JP Pat. 10138506A). Claims 1-2 and 5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Duffield et al. (U.S. Patent 4,432,005). Claim 6 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over by Toshio (JP Pat. 10138506A) in view of Yamamoto (U.S. Patent 5,123,961).

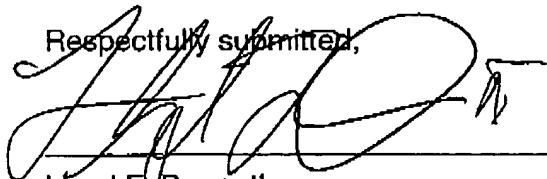
The Examiner has indicated that claim 7 would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have amended claim 7 to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have canceled claims 1-3 and made the remaining claims dependent from claim 7.

No additional fee is believed to be required for this amendment. However, the undersigned Xerox Corporation attorney (or agent) hereby authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, other than the issue fee, to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025. This also constitutes a request for any needed extension of time and authorization to charge all fees therefor to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025.

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In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, he is hereby directed to call Lloyd F. Bean, II, at Telephone Number 585-423-4520, Rochester, New York.

Respectfully submitted,



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LFB/cw
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